

Broken Ojibbeway

During the fur trade era, a pidgin form of Ojibwe known as **Broken Ojibbeway** was used as a trade language in the Wisconsin and Mississippi River valleys. Data on the language were collected during the 1820s at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin by Edwin James, a physician and naturalist, who also gave the pidgin its name.^[2] It has been described as "...a language with a restricted vocabulary drawn from the Ottawa dialect of Ojibwe with a few words from the Fox language, another Algonquian language of the region, and restructured and reduced, but not absent, Ojibwe morphology."^[3]

James recognized that "Broken Ojibbeway" was different from the variety of Ojibwe spoken in Wisconsin Territory. He noted that it "...is of the dialect used by the traders and the people of mixed blood in speaking with the Menomonies and Winnebagoes also many of the Sioux, Saxes and Foxes."^[3]

Although "Broken Ojibbeway" retains many aspects of the complex inflectional morphology that characterizes Ojibwe, it is nonetheless simplified and restructured, with reductions in the treatment of transitivity and gender, with simplification of the system of personal prefixes used on verbs, loss of the negative suffix that occurs on verbs, and loss of inflectional suffixes that indicate grammatical objects.^[4]

Broken Ojibbeway	
Region	Wisconsin, Mississippi valley
Native speakers	None
Language family	Ojibwe-based pidgin
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	None (mis)
Glottolog	brok1252 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/brok1252) ^[1]

References

1. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Broken Ojibbeway" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/brok1252>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

2. Nichols, John. 1995. "The Ojibwe verb in 'Broken Ojibbeway.'" *Amsterdam Creole Studies* 12, pp. 1-2.

3. Nichols, John, 1995, p. 1.

4. Nichols, John, 1995, pp. 17-18.

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Broken_Ojibbeway&oldid=941839250"

This page was last edited on 21 February 2020, at 00:09 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.